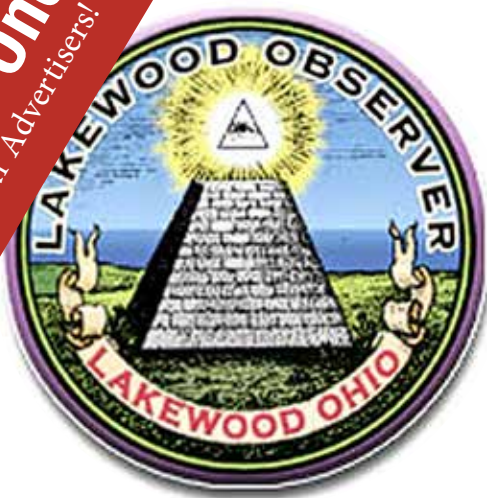


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THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Founder of Award Winning Observer Community-Written Newspapers & Websites

Volume 20, Issue 15, August 7, 2024

Give Blood!

“The Life You Save May Be Your Own.” - Flannery O’Conner

For The Joy Of School Supplies

by Karen Lee

Believe it or not, it’s that special time of year again. Back to School shopping! While most of you probably remember the excitement of picking out new school supplies, there

is just something about the possibilities of a brand-new notebook and a sharpened pencil, many of our local students’ families are unable to afford even the most basic of school supplies.

That is where our amazing community comes in: Supplies 4 Success (a committee of the Lakewood Area Collaborative and a member group of The Lakewood Foundation) has joined with H2O, area business and local churches summer of collecting school supplies. Our combined group aims to support the families and students who find themselves unable to purchase school supplies.

This year we need your support again to make sure each student has the tools they need for academic success – from crayons to binders! We firmly believe all students should have the opportunity to learn regardless of need. It has been proven that a student starting their school year off with all of the tools they need will have a better chance at a successful academic year. It is far too easy for these students to fall in-between the cracks and drop off the academic track.

It is our goal to have a brand new supply for any student that expresses a need. We do accept gently used supplies that our teachers can use in their classrooms.

Supplies 4 Success will collect supplies until Sunday, August 18th. Items can be dropped off at various locations throughout the city. We are happy to do the shopping for you! A monetary donation can be made through The Lakewood Foundation (with

continued on page 6

Property Taxes

Don’t Like It? Dispute It!

If you wish to dispute the proposed value for your property, you may begin the informal process.

- 1 Fill out the Property Owner Response Form online
- 2 Gather your supporting documentation
- 3 Submit form and documentation

BEFORE August 30, 2024

Questions?

Call 216-443-7420, Option 3

Online at cuyahogacounty.gov.sexennialreappraisal

2024 TAEB/LO Distinguished Tree Contest

Still Time To Nominate And Win

by Debra O’Bryan

For the third year now, Lakewood’s Tree Advisory and Education Board has teamed up with the Lakewood Observer to celebrate our tree canopy and give stuff away.

The categories for this year’s contest are the following:

The Most Magnificent Tree - Overall grandeur, be it size or beauty.

The Most Beautiful Conifer - Cone-bearing, chiefly evergreens.

The Oddest, Most Unusual Tree - Wow, what an odd tree, but oh so cool!

The Most Beautiful Native Tree - Natives provide food for our native pollinators and wildlife. They are uniquely adapted to our environment. Get a tree guide to see what’s native in our area.

There are three easy ways to enter and nominate a tree.

- 1) EMAIL - Send the



address and photo of the tree with category to: production@lakewoodobserver.com

- 2) INTERNET - Go to LO’s front page “Question of the Day” leave up to 3 addresses along with their contest category. We will go out

continued on page 8

For Ohio’s 13th District

Robert Dintaman, Committed Advocate

by Rob Dintaman

As a dedicated resident of Lakewood, Ohio, and an experienced practicing lawyer, I am committed to serving our community in the Ohio State House. With this background, I announce my candidacy for Ohio State Representative in District 13.

With a wealth of legal expertise and a deep under-

continued on page 8



Rob Dintaman



... the storms stopped, the skies cleared, and the 46th Lakewood Arts Festival took off to amazing crowds and sales!

Let There Be Art...



Here the Cook family purchase one of Nancy Feighan’s amazing photos. If you get a chance, check out her work, and buy a print.

Camp Happiness



Lakewood Fire Department stopped by Lakewood Park to try their new rig, and ran into excited children from Camp Happiness on a field trip. To see more photos and story, go to page 14.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S PAGE

Applications Sought For Ward 2 Council Seat Coming Up With Council

by Sarah Kepple
Lakewood City Council President

Hi Neighbors,

We may be down one Councilmember right now, but we’re not out! There’s a lot coming up with Council, and numerous ways for you to participate.

Please join us for the Ward 4 Council Community Conversation on Tuesday, August 20th at the Madison Branch of Lakewood Public Library at 6pm. Ward 4 Councilwoman Cindy Marx, and my fellow at-large council members and I look forward to sharing updates about things happening in Ward 4, answering your questions, and hearing your ideas and concerns.

The deadline to apply for the Ward 2 Council vacancy is August 23rd. To qualify for consideration, an applicant must be a resident of Ward 2, a registered voter of the city and a resident of the city



About 40 people attended the Ward 3 Council Community Conversation at the Barton Center on July 17th with Council President Sarah Kepple, Ward 4 Councilwoman Cindy Marx, and Ward 3 Councilwoman Cindy Strebig. (pictured left to right)

for at least one year. Interested Ward 2 residents, please submit a cover letter and resume in PDF format to the Clerk of Council at council@lakewoodoh.gov.

Council will hold public, recorded interviews for the Ward 2 position at the Tuesday, September 3rd Committee of the Whole meeting at City Hall.



Sign up for our email list to receive agendas for upcoming City Council meetings, livestream or watch past meetings, and learn more about Council on our webpage: <https://www.lakewoodoh.gov/lakewood-city-council/>

The meeting may begin as early as 5:30pm and will be contingent on the number of interviewees. I anticipate that the selected candidate will be officially appointed and sworn-in at the **continued on page 11**



YOU'RE INVITED



to **À La Cart**, a series of live cooking demos

WHEN & WHERE

Tues. Aug. 13th @ 2pm
Cove Community Center
12525 Lake Avenue

FEATURING

Omar McKay
Chef & Owner of iRie Jamaican Kitchen





Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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www.lakewoodobserver.com

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 **Lakewood Observer**

Upcoming Submission Deadline		Publish Date	
Friday, August 16, 2024		Wednesday, August 21, 2024	
Friday, August 30, 2024		Wednesday, September 4, 2024	

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Isn't it time you joined this effort to report community news while preserving our history?

THE MAYOR’S CORNER

Recent Leadership Hires Bring Impressive Resumes To City Hall

In a dense city with diverse needs, it is essential to have an excellent team of directors and leaders within our departments at City Hall. Recently, the City of Lakewood was excited to welcome three more talented members to our team who are passionate about public service.

In July, Renee Mahoney took the reins as our new Finance Director following the recent retirement of Peter Rancatore, who finished a long and distinguished public sector career. Director Mahoney comes to the Lakewood City Hall with her own impressive resume that includes over thirty years in government finance leadership positions. Her specific experience is highly relevant to Lakewood, with her previously serving an inner ring suburb – Assistant Finance Director of Shaker Heights – and also with our west side communities – as Director Finance for the City of Bay Village and in her additional role as Fiscal Officer for the Westshore Council of Governments. An added benefit for Director Mahoney will be her new 5-minute commute – she’s a proud and long-time Lakewood resident.

In June, we were also thrilled to welcome Angela Byington as our new Director of Planning and Development, as Shawn Leininger departed to take the assistant city manager position in Hilton Head, South Carolina. With decades of experience in government working in both planning and development, Director Byington was a great find for Lakewood. Our approach is a bit different than other cities in that Lakewood combines the economic and community development work and the planning work in a single department. Other municipalities typically split this work among multiple directors and

by Meghan George
Mayor/Safety Director, City of Lakewood



Renee Mahoney

departments, but Director Byington’s background allows Lakewood to keep these roles unified. She comes to our city directly from her role as Community Development Director at Perkins, Ohio, and previously served in director positions in planning and development for the City of Sandusky and the City of



Angela Byington

Elyria prior to that. Part of Director Byington’s work will be to ensure that Lakewood’s recently adopted Climate Action Plan is implemented, and one other recent hire will be key to that effort. For the first time, the City of Lakewood now has a team member fully dedicated to

this work with Jill Bartolotta as our first Climate Action and Sustainability Coordinator. In this role, Ms. Bartolotta will dedicate her time to carrying out the Climate Action Plan and supporting other sustainability initiatives for the City. Early efforts will focus on ways to reduce the City’s greenhouse gas emissions, waste, and overall carbon footprint while also supporting ecological improvements, and conducting outreach and education. Keep an eye out for her “Sustainability Tips” for Lakewoodites, which will appear in the City’s monthly e-newsletter.

These three new additions will continue to build the strength of high-performing talent we have in the City of Lakewood. Each of these new additions brings key experience, but also fresh perspectives from other communities and workplaces that will add to our capacity at City Hall and ensure that we explore new improvements in our methods. I look forward to working with these dedicated professionals to serve our residents and taxpayers.

Accessory Dwelling Units Now Allowed In Lakewood

From City of Lakewood

Exciting news for Lakewood residents! Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) are now allowed by code in the R-2 zoning district. Accessory Dwelling Unit means a self-contained dwelling unit designed for occupancy by one family for living and sleeping purposes that provides complete independent living facilities, including its own entrance, kitchen, bathroom, and sleeping area that is located on the same lot as a larger single-family dwelling that serves as the principal use of the

lot; and whose use is subordinate and incidental to the larger single-family dwelling. (1103.02)

This will bring a host of benefits to our community, including:

- Multi-gen living & flexibility for families
- Increased housing supply & choice
- Efficient use of infrastructure

- Affordable home ownership & rentals

- Enhanced property value & neighborhood diversity

Interested in building an ADU on your property? Visit lakewoodoh.gov/accessory-dwelling-units to learn about the application process and explore the possibilities of ADUs.

Find your property’s zoning classification here: <https://arcg.is/5404v1>

Medication Management
Lunch & Learn



August 26, 2024 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM

Join us at O’Neill Healthcare Lakewood for a lunch and learn featuring the important topic of Medication Management. Hear from esteemed speakers from Remedi HealthCare pharmacy on best practices and medication tips.

Please RSVP to Heather at (440) 941-3380 by Aug. 21st.

Registration at 11:45AM
Event at 12:00PM
Tours to follow!



(440) 808-5500 | ONEillHC.com

O’Neill Healthcare Lakewood
13900 Detroit Road, Lakewood, OH 44107



Lakewood Public Library Programs

Upcoming Events

by Lisa Calfee
Meet the Author - “The Vatican Cookbooks-Heavenly Cuisine and Legendary Stories” by Thomas Kelly
Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
The Vatican Cookbook takes us behind the scenes of the Vatican and gives us a seat at the illustrious table where fine meals have been served for centuries. Join co-author Thomas Kelly as he describes the creation of this number one bestseller and reads highlights from the book. Born and raised in Lakewood, Thomas Kelly is an author and screenwriter, TV writer, radio host, publisher, corporate executive and civic activist.

Meet The Author - “Playhouse Square and the Cleveland Renaissance” by John Vacha
August 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
Shortly after World War I, five theaters were constructed within a two-block radius in downtown Cleveland, which became known collectively as Playhouse Square. By the end of the 1960s, urban decline had darkened four of their marquees with demolition to follow, until a group of like-minded Clevelanders united to save the Square. Its rejuvenation became a catalyst for Cleveland’s larger comeback from postindustrial decline. Join John Vacha as he discusses the first book to give a complete account of this history, from the Square’s 1921 opening to the triumphant reopening in 2022. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Knit & Lit Book Club:
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
August 20, 2024: “Tom Lake” by Ann Patchett
September 17, 2024: “The Power” by Naomi Alderman

Booked For Murder Book Club: Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Multipurpose Room
August 15, 2024: “The Golden Spoon” by Jessa Maxwell
September 19, 2024: “Past Imperfect” by Joshua Cohen

Children’s and Youth Services

by Jeffrey Siebert
Adventure Begins at Your Library
Friday, May 10, 2024 through Monday, August 12, 2024 at the Main Library and Madison Branch
For all children and youth from birth up to those entering twelfth grade. Read for fun and rewards. Participants will be entered into weekly drawings for prizes and gift cards. Readers can check online or in person. Finishers receive a certificate of completion and a new book to keep. Registration is required.

Adventure Begins at Your Library Scavenger Hunt
Friday, May 10, 2024 through Monday, August 12, 2024 at the Main Library and Madison Branch
For all ages. Children are invited to participate in the Summer Reading Club scavenger hunt by looking for pictures of road and traffic symbols they might find on their next adventure. The pictures are found throughout the Children’s and Youth Services area of the library. The hunt lasts all summer. When you finish, turn in your scavenger hunt sheet to be entered in a drawing for a prize. No registration is required.

Tail Waggin’ Tutors
Saturday, August 10, 2024 at 11:00am - 12:30pm in the Main Library Multipurpose Room
For School-Age Children. Your child can bone up on their reading skills during a one-on-one session in a dog-friendly atmosphere. Students can practice reading with one of the dogs and owners that have been certified through Therapy Dogs International, an organization dedicated to regulating, testing and registering therapy dogs and their volunteer handlers. Reading to a therapy dog can provide comfort, support and happiness for self-conscious readers. No registration is required.

Family Weekend Wonders
Main Library- Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.
Madison Branch- Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
Looking for weekend entertainment for the whole family? Look no further! Drop in to the Library’s special weekend story time.
To sign up for any program, register online at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 140.

For children of all ages

CHILDREN'S/TEEN

SUMMER

READING CLUB 2024

Summer Reading ends August 12!

Start your adventure by signing up. Read for fun and a chance at prizes! Log your reading over the summer and get entered for our weekly drawings. All ages are welcome.

Sign up online at lakewoodpubliclibrary.org/youth or in person at Main Library or Madison Branch.

LAKEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS

Continuing Observations On The District:
The Good, The Better And The What The Heck

by Trish Hendy

The Good and The Better: Two years ago, a project was started to create an area that would honour all Lakewood High School alumni that served or are serving in our armed forces. It was one of my greatest regrets about retiring when I did, that I couldn't see the completion of this project. I did enjoy being on the ground level doing a great deal of research from flag protocols, talking to Vets and researching history right here at LHS. I was happy that Superintendent Niedzwiecki approved my idea of the home for this project by choosing the location in The Civic lobby.

The original memorial was the Peace Fountain, located in between the grand staircase sections, memorializing the Great War with a bronze plaque containing the names of the fallen encased in a dramatic sculpture and a fountain anchored by a lion's head. After WW2, two additional plaques were added on either side in memory of those fallen heroes. After the Korean conflict one more plaque was added. Later the fountain was dismantled to make way for one of many construction projects and the plaques were relocated to the hallway shared by the distinguished alumni. The plaque honouring the veterans of the Vietman conflict was added and an additional plaque was made available to add the names of those may have been omitted and other fallen heroes while in service to their country. Before the Phase 3 construction of LHS, everything was gathered and safely put in storage by the Lakewood Ranger Education Foundation (LREF).

This fall the new area for all alumni that have served will be dedicated, finding its new and hopefully a most honoured, permanent home. In addition to the restored plaques there will be militaria displayed. There is also an interactive screen to look up our alum and find each veteran's history of service. One of the most amazing treasures in the LREF collection is a book kept by the students of LHS during WW2 that journals each classmate's deployments

during the war, their battles fought and where they fell or when they returned home. It will be digitized for viewing and the actual book will be kept under glass in a display case to maintain its incredible condition. As you view the book, the image of classmates, prom dates and siblings entering the details of each soldier's service and their sacrifices in real time should not be lost on us today.

Superintendent Niedzwiecki calls the area a "living tribute" using the interactive screen to create records of alumni and other projects created by LHS students to share more about the displays. As the memorial grows there will be a designated area with a possible mural created by LHS art students to honour the women who served. If you are or you know a veteran please contact LREF at terri.richards@lakewoodcityschools.org to share your stories with words and pictures so they can be added to the interactive display. Congratulations to everyone involved in this project.

"...they stopped a moment, as most of us do, in front of the memorial fountain honouring the boys from Lakewood High who lost their lives in the First World War. Flanked by the flags of school and country and lighted to bring out the colouring of the ceramic murals around the bronze plaque..." (picture and description from the 1945 LHS yearbook)

The What the Heck: Circling back to the last article. The editor made some additions to help clarify the three issues as my shorthand does need some explanation at times.

It is in fact true that there is no policy requiring administrators or any staff member to live in Lakewood. Policies 1001, 3001 and 4001 state: "The Board encourages employees to reside in the City of Lakewood. The Board will collaborate with the City of Lakewood, financial institutions, and other community organizations in developing proactive and positive programs to encourage Board employees to make Lakewood their home." Residency is not required but living

in the city where your job is shaping the future of our children and the community should be more strongly encouraged especially at the highest level of the district. Lacking Lakewood residents at the cabinet level, the highest level administrators, is something that should be a great concern.

Regarding video recording of meetings, there is no policy. Only minutes are required. Policy 0168 states: "The Treasurer shall record the proceedings of each meeting in a book to be provided by the Board for that purpose, which shall be a public record. All resolutions passed by the Board shall be memorialized in a manner that allows the public to access, understand, and comply with the actions of the Board." Here is an example of the 4/29 special meeting minutes: "The Superintendent and Cabinet members provided Board members with an update on matters pertaining to the 2023-2024 school year and discussed planning for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond." Not an incredible number of actual details in these written minutes. According to board policy no meetings have a requirement to be video/audio recorded but to better serve our community and encourage more involvement by all stakeholders, a recording for all to see should be considered. If not, the Lakewood community can continue to be concerned about the

issue of transparency from the school board and top-level administrators.

Regarding executive sessions and noting the reasons for each session: More than an issue of transparency (seems to be the What the Heck theme) it is an issue of law. The state set this law to limit what school boards could discuss behind closed doors. So really, who cares about such a small detail? Me, I care. If you have ever worked for an organization that, when needed, stresses that the rules be followed, that organization should also follow the rules. There are no minutes of any kind from executive sessions. Our board chooses to not share information from the sessions, even though there are no strict confidentiality limits about informing the stakeholders: for example, explaining why one contractor was chosen over another.

Reminder: Board meetings are the first and third Mondays of the month. Information regarding location and times of meetings, policies, and contact information can be found on the Board of Education tab of lakewoodcityschools.org. Sign up for notification of not only special board meetings but many other district meetings by emailing kent.zeman@lakewoodcityschools.org. On YouTube search "Brent Kallay" to view board meetings and many other district events.

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LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS

For The Joy Of School Supplies

continued from page 1

S4S in the subject line), 12525 Lake Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107 or through the Lakewood Foundation page. Please contact us at lkwdschoolsSupplies@gmail.com for questions regarding the collection or additional information on how to help.

Items needed:

3 Ring Binders (1" and 1 ½"), Calculators (TI-30x), Folders (3 prong/pocket), Scissors (elementary), Pen/Pencils, Pencil Pouches, Post It Notes, Planners, Watercolors (elementary), Glue Sticks, Notebooks (1 and 3 subject), Dry Erase Markers

Drop Off Locations:

Becks Pool, Blackbird Bakery, The Blue Café, Breadsmith, Foster Pool, KB Confections, Lakewood Art Supply, Lakewood Garden Center, Lakewood YMCA, Nature's Oasis, Orange Theory, Pet's General Store, Phoenix Coffee, Roasted Coffee, The Root, Stem Soap,



Tease Hair & Body, Lakewood Recreation Department (year-round drop off)

Families in need of school supplies can get them the following ways:

Elementary Families: Contact their Parent Resource Coordinator after the start of the school year. Supplies will not be required the first week of school.

Middle/LHS Students: Can get supplies from their school Guidance Counselors on the first day of school and throughout the school year.

Karen Lee is Supplies4Success Committee Chair.



Rangers Join New Cleveland West Conference

by Christine Gordillo

Last month marked a significant milestone in Lakewood and North-east Ohio high school athletics as the Cleveland West Conference was officially established. The Cleveland West Conference will be comprised of seven school districts, including eight high schools and 10 middle schools in the Greater Cleveland area. Dedicated to promoting sportsmanship, competition, and community, the conference offers a platform for student-athletes to excel both on and off the field.

The founding members of the Cleveland West Conference include:

Bay Village City Schools, Buckeye Local School District, Lakewood City School District, North Olmsted City Schools, Parma City School District, Rocky River City School District, Westlake City School District

Each of these school districts brings a rich tradition of athletic excellence and academic achievement to the conference. The creation of the Cleveland West Conference comes at a pivotal time, providing student-athletes with enhanced opportunities for growth and competition within their local communities.

"Lakewood is excited to be part of the inception of the Cleveland West Confer-

ence," said Lakewood Athletic Director Rob Slone. "The schools that comprise the new league share the philosophy that athletics are tools that students use to learn essential life skills such as self-discipline, teamwork and a strong work ethic. They also believe that our athletic programs help promote physical and mental wellness along with a positive self image for all of our student-athletes."

The Cleveland West Conference is set to commence its inaugural season in the fall of 2024, with an array of thrilling matchups and rivalries anticipated throughout the school year. The conference leadership is committed to upholding the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play, ensuring a positive and enriching experience for all participants.





Lakewood Seventh-day Adventist
Community Service Center

1382 Arthur Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107

ONE TIME EVENT

BACKPACKS with SCHOOL SUPPLIES
GIVAWAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024
NOON TO 3:00PM

While supplies last



Annual Dog Swim

Becks Pool August 26th, 5-7 pm

Becks pool (Madison Park) closes on August 25

Foster pool (Lakewood Park) closes September 2



New booklet will be mailed out on August 16th.
Registration for residents starts August 20th
Non resident registration starts September 3rd.



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mary Warren Impact Scholarship Winner Olivia Diemert's Winning Essay: "Why Is Democracy Important To Preserve?"

by Olivia Diemert

Throughout recent years, Americans have experienced a variety of threats to our democracy. The fabric of our country is woven through threads of freedom and justice, and without our democracy, we would simply cease to be. The United States was founded under the idea that we all have individual rights that are worth protecting, and we all have individual voices that are worth hearing. Democracy promotes our individuality, allowing us to have our own say in how the government operates, making it critically important to preserve.

About 75% of Americans (regardless of political party) believe our democracy is in danger. This threat has left Americans spiraling, fearing that their voices may no longer be heard. Our democracy allows us to share our voices, expand on new ideas, and progress forwards into broader horizons. We get to see the changes we want made in our own country by using our own voices. We can directly vote on the future of our nation instead of having to convince higher-ups to consider our ideas.

A nation without the freedom of democracy is a nation divided and controlled. Many Americans fear losing our democracy not only because the balance of our country depends upon it, but also because their individuality depends on it as well. Without democracy, we all become worker bees providing for a system that will not provide for us. As long as our democracy is in place, the government will exist to serve the people, as it should be.

When we think of progression, we often think of linear movement.



However, democracy expands the idea of progression, allowing us to move in every direction all at once. Every voice can be heard and considered, meaning a multitude of changes that will benefit a multitude of different groups can be made all at the same time. We don't have to challenge or progress one worldview at a time, we can benefit everyone despite potential disagreements. Without democracy, the ideas within our government become limited. America is a diverse nation, meaning that there are a variety of different identities that need to be represented. It would be impossible to have one leader who could accurately represent every single member of our society, meaning it is up to us to represent ourselves.

The protection and preservation of our democracy is not only vital to our unity as a nation, but also to our individuality. The entire idea of democracy is based upon the freedom of expression and being able to see your desires and ideas implemented into our government systems. The United States has been built upon the idea of "liberty and justice for all," and these truths can only be upheld if everyone feels heard and represented. America is a melting pot of different cultures and identities, meaning it is vital to protect the individuality of every individual in order to preserve the fabric of our nation. Democracy shines upon our own individuality, making it vital to preserve in order to protect the sanctity of our nation.

Olivia is planning to study digital communications and potentially web design at Kent State University.

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James Wudel, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Fairview Hospital

Up to half of adults who get chest X-rays or CT scans have lung nodules that can result from infections or illnesses that inflame tissue, causing a clump of cells (granuloma) to form that calcify or harden over time. Other causes include exposure to air irritants or pollutants, autoimmune diseases, fungal or respiratory infections, and scar tissue.

"On the X-ray or scan, these nodules may look like a shadow or spot on the lung," says thoracic surgeon James Wudel, MD, who treats patients at the Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital's Lung Nodule Clinic. "While about 95% of lung nodules are benign, any patient with an identified lung nodule can be referred for screening."

The screenings can identify signs of lung cancer early, before there are any symptoms and when



the disease is easier to treat. Lung Nodule Clinic services include initial consultations, reviews of images, risk calculation and volume analysis of nodules, and surgical and non-surgical biopsies.

At Fairview, physicians are using the latest technology for diagnosis, including robotic biopsies and endobronchial ultrasound to determine the stage and formulate the best care path, be it surgery, chemotherapy, radiation or a combination of treatments.

"Across the U.S., less than 20% of lung cancer cases are diagnosed at Stage 1, when treatment is intended to be curative. In later stages, treatment becomes more complicated," says Dr. Wudel. "When we're on the front edge of screening nodules, if they are cancerous and we intervene as soon as possible, we can make a more meaningful impact on our patients' outcomes and lives."

To schedule an appointment at Fairview Hospital's Lung Nodule Clinic, please call **216.444.6503**.

Choose the proper brace to help relieve your knee pain.



Alexander Roth, MD
Cleveland Clinic Richard E. Jacobs Health Center at Richard E. Jacobs Campus in Avon, Middleburg Heights Family Health Center, and Lutheran Hospital

A knee brace stabilizes your knee and takes pressure off your joint. Your physician may recommend a brace following knee surgery or injury, or to help manage arthritis.

"Knee braces work by helping to stabilize the knee joint and can help align the knee. They can be utilized either after surgery, or while recovering from an injury," says Cleveland Clinic orthopaedic surgeon Alexander Roth, MD, at Cleveland Clinic Richard E. Jacobs Health Center at Richard E. Jacobs Campus in Avon, Middleburg Heights Family Health Center, and Lutheran Hospital. "We have many different types of braces and experts working in the office who can custom fit the right brace for you."

- Types of knee braces:**
- Unloader braces**, often recommended for knee arthritis, help absorb some of your weight and "unload" pressure off your knee to other parts of your leg that are strong enough to bear it.
 - Patellofemoral braces** protect and support your kneecap (patella) and the front of your knee.
 - Knee immobilizer braces** are worn while you're recovering from surgery. They are stiffer and prevent some (or all) movement.
 - Functional braces** let you move your knee but prevent it from moving too much or too far in one direction. They are commonly used after a knee injury.
 - Prophylactic braces** are typically worn by athletes to prevent knee injuries.
- A **web brace** is a sleeve with silicone webbing over the front. As you bend and straighten your knee, the webbing tightens in certain areas, providing extra support and guidance for the knee cap.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Roth or another Cleveland Clinic orthopaedic specialist, call **216.444.2606**.

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LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



Camp Can-Do Is The Best

from City of Lakewood

Our Community Recreation and Education Department goes into overdrive in the summer with an abundance of opportunities for our students while they are on summer break. One example is Camp-Can-Do, an eight-week camp for youth with special needs ages 5 to 13. Campers engage in

a variety of positive and socially appropriate endeavors and fun summer activities, like a foam party! Campers participate in adapted activities like art, music, reading, language skills, speech, socialization, swimming, field trips and more. Watching our Rec staff help Camp-Can-Doers participate in the many activities warms one's heart!

For Ohio's 13th District Robert Dintaman, Committed Advocate

continued from page 1

standing of the issues facing our district, I am particularly focused on seeking relief from the burden of high property taxes on our senior community. As a State Representative candidate for Ohio's 13th District, I am passionate about championing policies that support economic growth, enhance public education, and ensure the well-being of all residents.

I grew up in Mansfield, Ohio, a small town about an hour south of Cleveland. I attended Madison Schools in Mansfield and, after graduation, attended Ohio University in 1995, receiving a bachelor's degree in political science. I continued my studies at the University of Akron School of Law and moved to the Cleveland area to begin my law career.

Following years of practice with several law firms, I decided to venture out on my own, establishing Robert E. Dintaman Esq LLC in 2004. As a solo general practitioner, I have enjoyed the diversity of cases I have worked on and the opportunity to work closely with individuals on their unique legal challenges. Since moving to Lakewood in 2009, I have continued to operate my law firm, becoming a permanent and active member of the community.

The experience of working one-on-one with individuals to solve their problems inspired me to run for Ohio State Representative in District 13. I believe that public service is about getting out into the district, meeting people one-on-one, and collaborating to move our community forward. As a resident of Lakewood for over a decade, I cherish the community and the interactions with my neighbors and friends. This deep connection has driven me to put my best foot forward and represent the community in the Ohio State House.

As a State Representative, I will tirelessly work for the future of our community. Bringing my extensive knowledge as a small business owner and problem solver, I am committed to collaborating with others to bring fresh perspectives to the Ohio State House on behalf of the district. I pledge to seek tax relief for our senior community, ensuring that those bearing the burden of our property tax system receive the support they need.

Rob Dintaman
Ohio State Representative Candidate, District 13
rdintaman@gmail.com
ph: 440 668 8880

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2024 TAEB/LO Distinguished Tree Contest Still Time To Nominate And Win

and photograph the trees for you.

3) **MAIL** - Send addresses with category to: Lakewood Observer/TAEB Tree Contest, PO Box 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107 (again, we will happily go out and photograph the tree) Don't forget to include your name as the nominator!

Nominations may be submitted through August 16, 2024. *Winners from prior years may be nominated but will not be eligible to win. Voting will start on August 21st., more about that in the next issue.

Prizes have been donated by these generous Lakewood businesses:



Who can forget "Sammy the Spruce" and his amazing story?

Lakewood Garden Center, India Garden, Carabel Beauty Salon, and Woodstock BBQ. If your business would like to take part, contact us at: production@lakewoodobserver.com
Keep looking up Lakewood!

Follow QR Code to nominate.



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CALL OUTS

Fourth Of July Parade Awardees

by Sarah Kepple

At the July 15th meeting of Lakewood City Council, the following awardees were recognized for their participation in this year's 4th of July Parade.

Most Spirited: Just a Numb3r Dance Crew

Best Bicycle: Bike Lakewood
Best Original Entry: Stem Soap
Best Float: Beck Center for the Arts

Best Color Guard: Akron/Cleveland John Towle MOH 82nd Airborne Association

The Akron/Cleveland John Towle MOH 82nd Airborne Association also surprised city leaders with a certificate and challenge coin in appreciation for the patriotism and support of veterans shown by Lakewood citizens at the parade!



Lakewoodites Contribute To "All Things Green" Podcast Free TV For Planet Earth

by Sarah Bene

A new sustainable media company based in Ohio City is gaining momentum. One Planet Media, LLC, better known as 1PM, is a start-up company offering a free streaming TV channel called Eartho TV, where audiences can watch documentary films and shows about helping preserve our planet. You can find a list of places the channel is available at www.oneplanetmedia.com.

Founder and CEO Mark Inglis said the company's mission is to empower audiences with information about climate change, sustainability, environmental equality, circular economies, and other themes by using engaging content to inspire positive change.

1PM also produces an original podcast called "All Things Green" that is hosted by a local grassroots environmental activist Anton Krieger. Twice a month, Anton interviews guests working towards a more sustainable and healthy future.

Topics covered include urban farming with Justin Husher and environmental justice with Angela Yeager (both Lakewood residents) among many others. The podcast now has over 50 episodes available to listen to on multiple platforms, including YouTube, Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

If you'd like to learn more, you can find 1PM on LinkedIn and Instagram @oneplanetmedia.

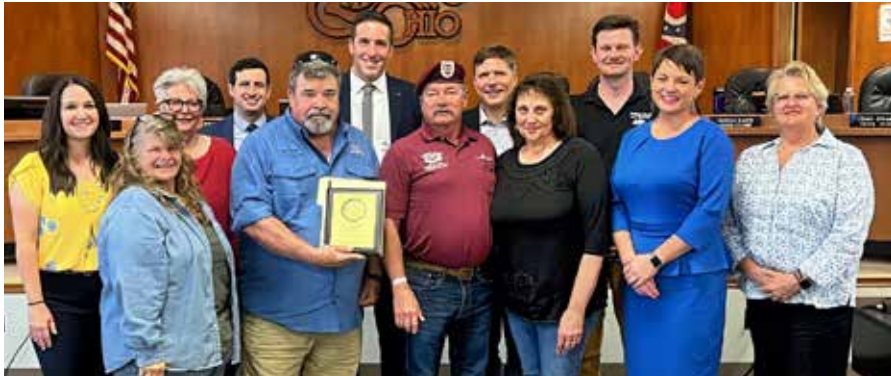
All Things Green is on TikTok @atgshow.

If you would like to get involved, you can email Mark Inglis: mark@oneplanetmedia.com

Sarah Bene is a Lakewood resident.



Best Float: Beck Center for the Arts



Best Color Guard: Akron/Cleveland John Towle MOH 82nd Airborne Association



Best Original Entry: Stem Soap



Best Bicycle: Bike Lakewood



Most Spirited: Just a Numb3r Dance Crew

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LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Westerly Senior Health Fair August 14

by **Adelaide Crnko**

August is often the month for fairs whether they be state, county or even Lakewood's Annual Westerly Apartments Senior Health & Wellness Fair. And, if you have ever felt that locating information about related concerns is like being on a merry go round, this may be the event for you. Wednesday, August 14, 10am-2pm, is the when, and 14300 Detroit Avenue is the place

to be (within the Westerly complex, also known as Barton Communities). There is no admission fee.

This year's theme is "Your Health, Our Priority." Several topics will be addressed being mindful that the 60+ demographic encompasses a large population with diverse needs. There is no one size fits all solution to issues facing older adults. Therefore, once there, you can determine what applies to you.

You don't have to live in a senior facility to take advantage of the gathering. Everyone is welcome. Westerly Service Coordinators Debbie Magda-Vukmanic and Melissa Djordjevic, two staffers organizing The Health Fair, feel that a friend or family member of a mature citizen may spot a flyer or have a discussion with a rep that could be of value to someone in their life. The object is to be exposed to, and learn about, the range of resources in the community.

For those attending in person, on site screenings such as blood pressure, hearing and vision will be available. Entities representing home health care and senior living are examples of who is expected. An escape from your daily routine could be a boost to your mental health as it was for a Westerly resident after a refreshing excursion via JKL Tours (also to be there). Beyond the sector of wellness, The League of

Women Voters and Legal Aid Society are scheduled as well. Approximately 40+ participants are in the lineup.

There will be printed materials and other giveaways from multiple vendors. Raffles will be held at the end.

Come check out the Westerly Senior Health & Wellness Fair. A conversation with someone there could make a difference. You may even get the answer to a question before it you thought to ask it.

Arrive at the Health Fair via The Barton Center entrance in the drive-around circle in back of the Westerly complex. You may pull in from Detroit (driveway next to retailer Cotton) or from Marlowe just south of the railroad tracks. Some parking spaces will be available at Lakewood Presbyterian Church (nearby at the corner of Detroit & Marlowe) or on side streets. The RTA 26 bus line also has nearby stops.

Disinformation, AI And Elections: How To Separate Fact From Fiction In 2024, Sept 10 At Lakewood Public Library

by **Venera Foti**

Are you worried that deep fakes, artificial intelligence and disinformation may be influencing voter decisions? Are you concerned about election integrity and wonder if there may be an element of truth in the claims of election fraud? How are you feeling about the state of democracy here in the US and globally?

Dean Jackson, a researcher specializing in democracy, media, and technology, and a former investigative analyst with the January 6th Committee, and Lee Jordan, respected news anchor and award-winning journalist,

will lead a conversation on these and other topics to get you informed and prepared on September 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Lakewood Public Library, 15425 Detroit Ave.

Brought to you by the Lakewood Chapter of the League of Women Voters in partnership with the Lakewood Public Library.

Venera Foti is a co-chair of the League of Women Voters Lakewood chapter, in charge of Programming. Many of our events are open to the community and we would like to share details.

Tyson Needs A Home!

by **Kara Vlach-Lasher**

Tyson is up for adoption now!

Tyson is a lovable tank of a dog who finds himself at the Lakewood Animal Shelter through no fault of his own. He gets a good case of the ZOOMIES when let out of his kennel to play. And he is a gentleman when taking treats.

Come visit him at the Lakewood Animal Shelter - 1299 Metropark Drive, just past the Dog Park. (216) 529-5020

Animal Shelter Hours: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Saturday, closed on Sunday.

This message is shared by the Citizens Committee for Lakewood's

Dogs To Adopt



Animal ID: 3482
Kennel# DOG ROOM 02
Status: Remaining At Shelter

Kittens To Adopt



Animal ID: 3502
Kennel #: CAT ROOM 09
Species: Cat
Breed Type: Mix
Gender: Female Spayed
Color: Black And White
Age: 4 Months
Health: Well
Weight: 3 Lbs.
Temper: Careful

Animal Information

Name: Tyson
Breed: Terrier
Gender: Male Neutered
Color: Brown & White
Age: 3 Years
Health: Well
Coat: Short
Temper: Good

Animals and Shelter (CCLAS). CCLAS is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization committed to safeguarding and enhancing the lives of Lakewood's companion animals. We provide financial assistance and other resources to the Lakewood Animal Shelter for the quality care of abandoned, orphaned, sick and injured animals. In addition, we promote adoptions and advocate for animal welfare through community outreach and education. Visit us at www.cclas.org

Building a community where all our companion animals receive appropriate care and are treated with empathy, kindness and respect.

Kara Vlach-Lasher is President of CCLAS.

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LAKEWOOD IS ART.®



It was great running into Lakewood artist, Garrett Bodnar, at the Art Festival. I have followed his work since his days of winning scholastic awards and am so impressed with his growth, use of colors and mastery of so many disciplines. I know GARBOD (his artist name) will go far, creating exceptional collectable pieces.

Short For Time:

Reviews Of Recent Releases By Local Bands, Pt. 138

by Buzz Kompier

Cruelster - Lost Inside My Mind In Another State Of Mind: The Singles Collection - Drunken Sailor Records - 25 songs - LP, digital

I am a noted Cruelster fan and have been reviewing their works (their art, some might say, though don't confuse that with band member Nathan "Piss" Ward's actual visual art which I have also written about here) in these pages for a long time— almost ten years! I remember when many of the releases compiled here originally came out. I'm now older than these guys were when I met them. Anyway, hearing this stuff puts me right back to a certain time in my life when...wait, this isn't about me. Cruelster are one of the most original punk bands of the last ten (maybe even twenty) years and I'll stand up on Hank Wood's coffee table in my Docs and say that. Their influence cannot be overstated— not just in the Cleveland music scene, but I think to the world of music in general. So what's on this record? Well, as you might imagine, it's everything they've released that is not on one of the albums proper ("Potatoe Boys" and "Riot Boys")—it includes a rare compilation appearance, various splits and long-gone tapes, and even the Perverts Again Total Punk 7". Don't call it egg punk— not that I've ever really been sure what that means, but it's not that. But it is punk of a weirder variety, music where you can really tell that it was made for the people in the band and maybe some of their friends to enjoy and if anyone else happened to care, then great. That's where the best art comes from, they say. This is an essential release even if you've followed the whole Cruelster journey and have all these songs elsewhere already (I'm not sure that the final track, "Fairview" (recorded when they were 13 or 14! What is that called? Juvenilia? I think that's right), has even been officially released before this, so you probably don't) because included are very informative and entertaining liner notes. I laughed, I cried. I learned

a lot! (I've never realized, for example, that "Banker's Brunch" was reused for the Knowso song "Look At The Chart" but now I totally hear it). And hey, I did point out in my review of "Riot Boys" that it wasn't Yesyes singing on "American Boots For Who?" so I would like that to be added to the official record if they ever happen to redo these liner notes. Is every song on here perfect? No, and I probably don't need to ever hear "Let's Make Noise (In The Bathroom)" again, but this is an important document and there's really nothing more that can be said. 4.5/5

(drunkensailorrecords.bandcamp.com)

McCarthy and the Red Menace - Disown The Night - Blueberry Donut Recordings - 18 songs - CD, cassette, digital

It's been a while since we got something new from McCarthy and the Red Menace— I think it might've been 2016. That is to say, I can't fully remember what their last record sounded like, but this is very surf-influenced indie rock. There are even a few instrumentals ("Faded Cove" and "Sunray vs. the Runt") if that's your bag. Some tracks also are particularly indebted to a '60s pop and/or girl group, like "Bad Wave Of Love" and "Desert Sands" (I particularly like the "ti-yi-yime" vocals on this one—it's a nice touch). The layered harmonies on "Chasing Sunsets" feel a little more Ben Folds than Beach Boys, but it's a good song. The power pop of "Oh, Contrarian" is another favorite, as is "Venice Beach Smileless Girls"— something about both of these remind me of Butterfield 8, which is admittedly a weird comparison to make but I think somewhat apt. Joe Shearer's voice has some similarity to Jim Butterfield's (and on some tracks, like "Hesitate," to They Might Be Giant's John Linnell's) and there's a certain thing either about how he sings or the melodies of the songs, I'm not quite sure, but it wavers a little bit off-key in a way that I assume is intentional because it definitely adds to the song. Other favorites

include "Avalanche Lili" and the title track. "Disown The Night" has a good breakdown towards the end (and come to think of it, is almost titled like a metal song) and supports my theory that this group is best when they're a bit more high energy. That's not to say the slower, more laid back tracks are bad, but here's the thing: this is a very long album. Eighteen songs and for the most part they aren't short ones. There are times when it does drag a little bit. And I can't blame them for putting out a lot of songs— so many years

since your last release is a long time to build up a catalog. But there could've been stuff cut and it probably would've made for a better album. Anyway, it's still a pretty decent release and there are enough good songs here that it's worth a listen. 3/5

(mccarthyandtheredmenace.bandcamp.com)

Are you a local-ish band? Do you have a record out? Email vaguelythreatening@gmail.com or send it directly to the Observer: PO Box 770203, Lakewood, OH 44107.

Final Chapter Of Acoustic Summer Music At Blue Cafe

by Martin Jaffe

The last session of the popular innovative music series hosted by local singer/songwriter Congito Jaffe at the Blue Cafe, 15715 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio is on Sunday, August 18th from 12 to 2pm.

This is your final chance to sign up for your fifteen minutes of musical fame and the accolades of a live audience—share your voice/vision as your strum your guitar, tap your timbales, and show your musical soul to your friends and neighbors while enjoying coffee and elegant pastry at the Blue Cafe.

As we celebrate this special end



of summer event Congito will open the afternoon with a new set of original melodic lyrically mesmerizing new material from the visionary poet Lady Ives of Rocky River, frequent Congito collaborator.

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1 Item	\$9.50	\$11.25	\$15.00	\$16.50
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3 Items	\$11.00	\$13.25	\$17.50	\$20.00
4 Items	\$11.75	\$14.25	\$18.75	\$21.75
Deluxe	\$12.50	\$15.25	\$20.00	\$23.50
Extra Items	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.75
Chicken	\$2.25	\$2.75	\$3.75	\$4.75
Extra Cheese & Special Toppings	\$2.00	2.50	3.50	4.50

Available items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onion, Green & Red Bell Peppers, Anchovies, Ham, Bacon, Fresh Garlic, Black Olives, Hot Peppers, Ground Beef, Pineapple, Jalapeno Peppers Special Toppings: Artichoke Hearts, Fresh Tomato, Broccoli, and *Chicken

LAKEWOOD CARES

Returning for 2024

Jam For Justice At The Beachland Ballroom

by Tonya Sams

Legal Aid’s annual summer fundraiser, Jam for Justice, returns on Wednesday, August 21 at The Beachland Ballroom & Tavern in the Waterloo Arts District of Cleveland. The event will include a staggered schedule of bands on two stages for non-stop fun!

Doors will open for the August 21 show at 5:00 PM, with the first band taking the stage at 5:20 PM. Event emcees Stephanie Haney (WKYC), DJ Brad Wolfe (Brad Wolfe Law), & Delanté Spencer Thomas (President, Norman S. Minor Bar Association) will keep the party going throughout the evening.

Participating bands for 2024 include: Razing the Bar; Faith & Whiskey; Hayden Gilbert and The Ruckus; K.G. Mojo; Luke Lindberg & The Hung Jury; The No Name Band; Out of Order; State Road; Six Sometimes Seven; and new for 2024, The Tortfeasors. These bands are made up of local bench and bar leaders – attorneys, judges, law faculty, and law students who moonlight as musicians and donate their talents to raise money for Legal Aid.

The 2024 band schedule includes ten bands on two stages:

Tavern Stage:

5:20 - Tortfeasors



JAM FOR JUSTICE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024

5:00 P.M. - DOORS OPEN • 5:20PM - FIRST BAND
Beachland Ballroom/Tavern • 5711 Waterloo Road

Jam out to a staggered schedule of bands on two stages!

Support Legal Aid while enjoying a variety of musical acts headlined by local attorneys, judges, law faculty, and law students.

lasclev.org/2024jam

- (* new for 2024! *)
- 6:00 - State Road
 - 6:40 - K.G. Mojo
 - 7:20 - Hayden Gilbert and The Ruckus
 - 8:00 - Out of Order

- Ballroom Stage:**
- 5:40 - CWRU's Razing the Bar
 - 6:20 - The No Name Band
 - 7:00 - Luke Lindberg & The Hung Jury
 - 7:40 - Six Sometimes Seven
 - 8:20 - Faith & Whiskey

Legal Aid is grateful for numerous local sponsors for their continued support of Jam for Justice, especially

Presenting Sponsor Accellis Technology Group; Media Sponsor WKYC Studios; and Platinum Sponsors Diebold Nixdorf; The J.M. Smucker Co., RPM, and Taft/.

Learn more about Jam for Justice 2024: lasclev.org/2024jam.

Follow #Jam4Justice2024 on social media for event updates and visit lasclev.org for more information about Legal Aid’s work to extend justice throughout Northeast Ohio.

Legal Aid is a non-profit law firm whose mission is to secure justice, equity, and access to opportunity for and with people who have low incomes through passionate legal representation and advocacy for systemic change.

Founded in 1905, Legal Aid is the fifth oldest legal aid organization in the country. Legal Aid’s 135+ total staff members (75+ attorneys), and 3,000 volunteer lawyers use the power of the law to improve safety, shelter, and economic stability for clients in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain Counties.

Tonya Sams is the Development & Communications Manager at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

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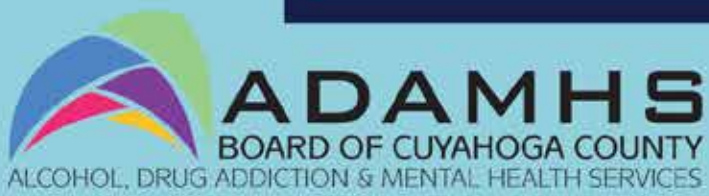
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LAKEWOOD OBSERVER



AUGUST

ARIES: Oh, it's hot in Ram's corner this month, the Sun is blazing down on your libido. Jupiter is lighting up the neighborhood. Check out the latest Java spot with Fire in your eyes.

TAURUS: Time for the Bull to come out of the Bull Pen & head to the bank. Jupiter's putting greenbacks in that vault faster than you can move, then spend time on the homefront.

GEMINI: Front and center for the Twins this month. You've got the gift of gab. Double your pleasure, double your fun, network at the plethora of eclectic bookstores in town.

CANCER: Keep your lips zipped on where you have that treasure box hidden. The Santa Claus of the Zodiac is working "behind the scenes" putting all dollar signs in the bank.

LEO: Lion/Lioness, shine on, you own the jungle. Invite all the rabbits, the birds, the squirrels...that's right invite all your friends, let that jungle rock and roll. You own it!

VIRGO: It's time for you to dot your I's and cross your T's, Jupiter is in your house of careers. The Sun is shining behind the scenes in the 12th house. Seal those lips shut!

LIBRA: Have you booked that trip overseas yet? We know making a deci-

sion scares the bejeebers out of you. Grab some friends. Brush up on your Italian; "Ragazzo, more pasta! Gracie!"

SCORPIO: Put that stinger away Scorpio. Resources are coming to you from others. Transformation abounds. The Sun is shining on your career, get out from underneath that bushel basket!

SAGITTARIUS: The Centaur's bow-&-arrow hit the Bullseye in the relationship arena. The Sun is shining on higher learning, dig into some philosophy books, & book an overseas yoga retreat.

CAPRICORN: The Goat's vitality is looking up this month. No problem climbing that mountain summit with Jupiter shining on your house of health. The Sun joins Venus...resources glow!

AQUARIUS: Fun, fun, fun in the Sun, Sun, Sun! Romance & relationships are getting the green light. Jupiter & the Sun are beaming. Expect the unexpected!

PISCES: Don't venture too far from the Fish pond this month. Lady luck is swimming right out up to your front door. Home is where the heart is, invite all the pollywogs & tadpoles over.

Eva Starr, local astrologer, has been studying the Moon & Stars since she could read. You can reach Starr at evastarr@evastarr.com

Celebrating 50 Years Of Business! Around The Corner Saloon And Cafe



A much younger, but always stylish Mickey Krivosh ready to open 50 years ago this month.

by Debra O'Bryan

Fun has always been just Around The Corner.

Mickey Krivosh built this Lakewood landmark in 1974, dubbing it the Eatery, Drinkery, and Fun-ery! Serving good food and good times has always been a priority for Mickey. His love of family, friends, and community has flourished now for five decades. A lifelong Lakewood resident (Class of 1970), Mickey has provided a pleasant, comfortable atmosphere for friends to gather and share quality time while being entertained.

With the help of his son Ryan, ATC has grown to include four bars, dance floors, and private party areas, including his famous patio.

Come join him and his family to celebrate this tremendous anniversary on August 19th through the 22nd. Check out atcafe.com for details of the daily celebrations.

See you there!

Lakewood Park is Camp Happiness



by Jim O'Bryan

Once the fire truck pulled up you could hear the kids' screams of excitement. But no group was more thrilled than the kids from Camp Happiness, who were at the park on a field trip.

When the firefighters became aware of the kids, they broke out the junior firefighter gear, and let everyone check out the truck.

The Camp Happiness kids got a special demonstration, including how the fire hose works, how the truck works, and how high the ladder can go. Yes, that is Fire Chief Dunphy at the top.

Great fun was had by all: Happy kids, happy firefighters, and smiles all around.



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LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY

July 20, 2024

Memorial For Jake Marx



Memorial service for Jake Marx in the garden at Ennis Court, where friends spent hours with him before his death.



Councilwoman Cindy Marx speaks of her love of Jake, and his love of life, family, friends, poetry, and the garden.



Poem from Jake Marx
April, 1983

A white cottage is in your mind,
Surrounded by a clean picket fence.
Your love-mate is handsomely dark,
Sexual, arms that protect,
Fingers that tease. He is always
“at home” and always gentle.

When I die, my love, place me
Just inside that picket fence. Talk
To me when you need to and
Plant peonies along my right side.

Jake Marx
Born - July 20, 1942
Died - January 2, 2024
God Speed

Picture left: Cindy and Jake



Jessica Parker

Meet Me At Cove:

Jessica Parker,
Champion Of Early Childhood

by Nancy Feighan

Jessica Parker, Program Manager for the Division of Early Childhood, has dedicated 11 years toward building a community for young families and providing them with tools and programs to shape young lives. Her journey into early childhood education began after having her first son, prompting her to pursue a graduate degree in the field.

Jessica discovered the Family Room when her oldest was a baby, having recently moved to the area. She quickly became a regular, forming close friendships and eventually started volunteering. Her involvement grew, leading to her to a full-time role with the Division of Early Childhood.

For Jessica, the Family Room holds a special place in her heart.

Throughout her career, Jessica has seen remarkable resilience among participants. She is particularly proud of bringing in volunteers and utilizing outdoor spaces during the pandemic to ensure new mothers and their babies had the support and connection they needed. One memorable initiative was the infant support group meetings held under the trees at Merl-Bunts Park.

As the Family Room's 30th anniversary celebration approaches in October, Jessica is excited and hopes you'll join in. There will be joyful reunions as we continue our mission to support families and help new generations thrive.

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The Back Page



photo by Jim O'Bryan

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Legal Aid thanks the Healthy Lakewood Foundation for its outreach support!